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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. :	08/973,293	Docket No.	: 13668/957701
Inventor	: Robert G. SCHWARTZ et al.	Confirmation No.	: 6722
Filed	: December 1, 1997	Customer No.	: 23838
Examiner	: Thomas A. DIXON	Art Unit	: 3639

For : SECURE POSTAGE PAYMENT SYSTEM AND METHOD

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REPLY TO NOTICE OF ABANDONMENT AND RE-SUBMISSION OF RESPONSE

Sir:

Applicants filed a timely response in the above-reference application on October 3, 2006. A Notice of Abandonment was erroneously mailed on October 31, 2006. During a phone conversation on November 2, 2006, Examiner Dixon confirmed that the abandonment was premature and requested that Applicants resubmit the response with a copy of the stamped postcard.

A copy of the previously-filed response, including the petition for extension of time, is attached. As evidenced by the stamped postcard, a copy of which is also attached, the reply was filed and received by the Patent Office on October 3, 2006. Applicants respectfully request entry of the response and withdrawal of the Notice of Abandonment.

As the reply was timely filed with a proper petition for extension of time, Applicants believe that no additional fees are due. However, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees or credit any overpayment to the deposit account of Kenyon & Kenyon LLP, Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

Attachments:


Copy of stamped postcard dated October 3, 2006

Copy of Petition for Extension of Time dated October 3, 2006

Copy of Response and Election dated October 3, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

Date: November 7, 2006



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The stamp of the Patent Office hereon may be taken as acknowledging receipt,
on the date stamped, of

INVENTOR(S): **Robert G. SCHWARTZ et al.**

SERIAL NO.: **08/973,293**

FILED: **December 1, 1997**

FOR: **SECURE POSTAGE PAYMENT SYSTEM AND METHOD**

PAPERS FILED:

1. **RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**
2. **EXTENSION OF TIME**



ASK/ac

13668/957701

October 3, 2006